

reported his findings to me, I realised that they could only have been this species; they were recorded on the county moth database, but as there was no voucher specimen I could not confirm the finding. On 1 April 1999, Adrian had two more specimens of this moth, taken in his garden at Bideford. These were retained and are now in his collection.

On 8 April 1999, Alan Jenkins and I visited the original site near to Great Torrington and at around 23.30 hours the first *C. leucographa* came to light, with two others following; two of these were males and the third a female, which subsequently laid eggs which will, hopefully, be bred through.

A further male specimen of this species was captured by Frank Smith, to light at Lower Washfield, near Tiverton, on 17 April 1999. This specimen has since been confirmed by me and has been retained by Harry Wooltorton, from Exmouth.

According to South (1907. *Moths of the British Isles*) *C. leucographa* was "More frequently taken in . . . and Devon". Other records which I have to hand as Devon moth recorder are: Lee Moor, near Plymouth, 1861 to 1865 (J.J. Reading); Exeter and Barnstaple, circa 1870 (G.F. Mathew); Bishopsteignton, one to light 22 March 1953 (W.L. Coleridge) and Huntshaw, near Great Torrington (Rothamsted Insect Survey light trap), two in 1972, four in 1974 and two in 1975, determined by Sue Parker or Joan Nicklen.

The species seems to occur, mainly, in the Bideford-Great Torrington area, but clearly could be more widespread.—ROY MCCORMICK, 36 Paradise Road, Teignmouth, Devon TQ14 8NR.

### **Cappadaridaceae: An unusual host-plant family record for the cabbage root fly *Delia radicum* (L.) (Dip.: Anthomyiidae)**

A sample of maggots submitted to Reading Museum Service in August of 1998 by Mrs T. Aldiss of Chazey Road, Caversham, Berkshire (OS grid reference SU 7075) had been found at the base of spider flower plants *Cleome* sp. (Cappadaridaceae) in her garden where they had been eating away at the stems at and around ground level. The larvae were reared on, producing flies in September and these were identified as cabbage root flies *Delia radicum* (L.). They were slightly smaller than is normal for this species, but this was probably because they were removed from their food before they were fully grown. The cabbage root fly is well known as a pest of cultivated Cruciferae including cauliflowers, cabbages, radishes, turnips and swedes, feeding mainly on the roots but also tunnelling in the stems (Smith, 1989. An introduction to the immature stages of British Flies. *Handbooks for the identification of British Insects* 10(14)), so this host plant record is significant as it is a entirely unrelated family from that normally attacked. Thanks are due to Brian Baker for collecting the specimens and to Hugh Carter and Nigel Wyatt for identifying them. Voucher specimens have been deposited with Reading Museum Service and The Natural History Museum, London.—DAVID G. NOTTON, Museum of Reading, Reading Museum Service, Blagrove Street, Reading RG1 1QH.